



## Memorial Day 2003

*Remembering those who gave their lives for our freedom*

Thousands gathered at the N.M. Veterans Memorial Monday to remember those who paid the ultimate price in defense of our nation's freedom.

ABOVE—Members of TEAM KIRTLAND provided the parade of state flags.

RIGHT—The American Flag was raised to half-staff by Kirtland AFB Chief Master Sgts. William Higgins, left, 58th Maintenance Group, Audrey Thompson, 377th Air Base Wing, and Alan Ludi, N.M. Air National Guard headquarters.

BELOW—Final farewell Taps was played by Sgt. Daniel Fullerton of the National Guard's 44th Army Band.

LEFT—Special recognition was also provided for donations of memorial bricks, tiles, trees, rose bushes and benches that adorn the park site.



Memorial Day provided New Mexicans an opportunity to recognize the sacrifices of America's warriors who served their country.

ABOVE—Congresswoman Heather Wilson pins the Purple Heart on Frank Gurule who was wounded in the European Theater in 1944.

LEFT—Two members of the 377th Security Forces Squadron—Master Sgt. Timothy Uding and Senior Airman Neng Hang—escort Gold Star Mothers Carmen Lopez and Florence Williams while they place a wreath in remembrance of sons and daughters who did not return.

Photos by Dennis Carlson